### NOTES AND MEMORANDA

Jenkins, Alice. Law for the Rich: A Plea for the Reform of the Abortion Law. 1960. Pp. 96.

New York Academy of Sciences. The Annals: Genetic Concept for the Origin of Cancer. A Symposium. 1958. Pp. 809-1241.

Rainer, Jerome and Julia. Sexual Pleasure in Marriage. 1959. Pp. 240.

Registrar General's Statistical Review of England and Wales for the Year 1958. Part III Commentary, 1960. Pp. 222.

Titmuss, Richard M. Essays on "The Welfare State." 1958. Pp. 232. Presented by Mr. D. Caradog Jones. United Nations. Demographic Yearbook 1959.

Special topic: Natality Statistics. 1959. Pp. 719. Westwood, Gordon. A Minority: A Report on the Life of the Male Homosexual in Great Britain. 1960. Pp. 216.

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of men and women to control their fertility by means of contraceptives. He traces the development of the methods now in use and considers their merits and deficiencies and why they fail. The medical, social and economic indications for their use and the attitude of church and state. not only in the U.S.A. and the U.K., but in many parts of the world are incisively discussed. Space is given to outline some of the research work now going on in various parts of the world to develop simpler and better methods of controlling fertility and the author enters a plea for a much more generous expenditure of national resources to help solve this very urgent problem.

The next six chapters cover sterilization and abortion. The author gives an admirable summary of how these two more drastic and controversial methods of preventing births are utilized and controlled in different countries. He points out how various cultures, as for example in India and Japan, modify public attitudes towards these things, and how difficult it is to alter these attitudes, although, as he says, "laws regulating man's conduct are made by man, they can be changed, unlike the laws of the universe.... Americans are particularly prone to believe that (for example) the abortion law, like the law of gravity, is unchangeable." Dr. Guttmacher himself clearly feels that in his own country and in ours there is great need to revise and clarify the law, both on sterilization and on abortion.

Finally, there are two chapters on infertility and artificial insemination, dealt with in a refreshingly forthright and sagacious manner.

MARGARET C. N. JACKSON

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